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## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscriptions that began with the first number of *The Commoner* will expire in January as shown on the wrappers on the papers. As it requires the same work to handle a renewal that it does a new subscription, renewals should be sent in without delay to protect the subscriber against the possibility of missing a number of the paper.

The Boers did not receive an advance copy of the message.

A large number of interested gentlemen unselfishly offer to revise the tariff.

In corresponding with those who advertise in *The Commoner*, please mention this paper.

Owing to limited jail facilities Judge Haney of Chicago may experience difficulty in enforcing his peculiar notions of what constitutes respect for his court.

It was real kind of the Philadelphia republican leaders to wait until the day after an election to announce the size of the republican majority.

"The tariff must be revised by its friends!" shouts an administration organ. It will be a sorry day for the tariff beneficiaries when it is revised by its victims.

Referring to the Philippine decision of the supreme court the Chicago Record-Herald speaks of "the acrobatic Justice Brown." Anarchy, to say nothing of treason!

By carefully forgetting former comments on Mr. Roosevelt the Washington Post manages to speak highly of the message. The Post's memory is a wonderful piece of mechanism.

It costs the government eight times more to carry the mails than it costs the express companies to have their matter hauled. Postmaster General Smith should animadvert on this fact.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks for the correct pronunciation of the president's name. The inquiry was referred to the president's private secretary, who replies that Mr. Roosevelt's name is "pronounced in three syllables, with the two o's as one,"—Roos-e-velt.

# The Commoner.

The Chicago Tribune asserts that talking about the money question is "appealing to sentiment and prejudice." There are times when the Chicago Tribune forcibly reminds one of Artemus Ward's kangaroo.

The announcement of Senator Quay's determination to retire should have been accompanied by a report that the plum trees have been winter killed. As it was not, the announcement will be given the credence it deserves.

A large number of newspapers are printing the assertion that President Roosevelt is the first president whose name does not contain the letter "a." This would be interesting to John Tyler if he were alive to make note of the fact.

The San Francisco Call is shocked to find an anti-monarchical sentiment among the miners in the Yukon territory, but this is not surprising for the Call is one of the papers that is grieved to find an anti-imperialistic sentiment in the United States.

Before the purchase of the Danish West Indies is ratified it would be well to search them for revolutions and determine beforehand whether their inhabitants are to be citizens, subjects or "colonists." Such a procedure might save the supreme court a lot of acrobatics.

A Boer, just arrived from Pretoria—Rev. Dr. Herman Van Broekhuizen—recently occupied the pulpit at the Washington church which the president attends. The republican leaders will probably regard this as a sufficient concession to the burghers of South Africa and, therefore, resist any attempt to give expression to American sympathy.

Several young ladies in a New York town have joined an anti-matrimony club to encourage a "life of single bliss." It is probable that this club was organized by the daughter of an editor who knew the value of advertising. There is, of course, nothing to prevent any young lady resigning her membership in the club when she receives an offer from an eligible young man.

It is reported that the Fulton, the newest Holland sub-marine torpedo boat, remained under water fifteen hours, and then returned to the surface undamaged. The persons in the boat enjoyed themselves and suffered no injury from their temporary submersion. The financiers who have been sinking the silver question at regular intervals would better investigate. It may be that, like the Fulton, it is sound and in good repair.

The Chicago Tribune complains that the men in charge of the state institutions find "in 'republican bread' hidden virtues which make amends for sourness and short measure," and that "the men in charge of the county institutions perceive in 'republican coal' qualities hidden from the public which offset the shale and dust mixed with it." Now that Illinois and Cook county have been "redeemed," such things ought not to be.

Some argue that imperialism is strong on the Pacific coast, and yet the democratic national ticket, running on an anti-imperialistic platform, received twice as many votes as the democratic municipal ticket, running on local issues, received this year. The democratic national ticket received last year some seven or eight thousand more votes than the republican candidate for mayor received this year and about four thousand more than the successful union labor candidate received. The Kansas City platform is not a weak document, and the party would be stronger everywhere if the candidates would stand upon the platform and fight for its principles.

On another page will be found an offer made by *The Public*. Mr. Louis F. Post, the editor, is making *The Public* one of the most valuable of the democratic papers having a national circulation.

John Morley denounces the concentration camps instituted by the English government in South Africa, and declares that "the death rate among children is hideous, is excessive, is appalling."

President Roosevelt bespeaks commendation for the "captains of industry." This would be all right were it not for the fact that the "captains" sometimes forget to have compassion for the privates.

In attempting to place the blame for the postal deficit Postmaster General Smith manages to miss the real cause. He should study the contracts the government makes with the railroads for carrying the mails.

A cablegram from Berlin says that the "bankers and manufacturers throughout Prussia and the German states are apprehensive of the present financial conditions, and grave fears of a serious crash are entertained." It is also stated that meat has become a greater luxury than at any time for twenty years. This recalls the statement made a couple of years ago by the German minister of the interior to the effect that Germany would be forced to a silver basis if the balance of trade continued against her for a few more years. And yet there are people who advocate a universal gold standard.

President Roosevelt lays particular stress upon our love of peace and our desire to be at peace with the world. It will shock him to read the latest treasury bulletin and learn that the expenditures of the war department for the present fiscal year exceed by more than three millions the civil and miscellaneous expenditures. According to that showing the only department with greater expenditures is the pension office, and that includes pensions paid to the survivors of all of our wars. The navy department comes fourth with an expenditure nearly twice as large as the nation's interest account.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks where he can secure a biography of Thomas Jefferson. Parton's *Life of Jefferson*, published by J. B. Lippincott Co., N. Y., 3 volumes, is one of the best. The *Jefferson Encyclopedia*, published by Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York, is a complete reproduction of Jefferson's views on public questions. Both works are worthy of a place in any library, but if one must choose between them, the Jeffersonian Encyclopedia is more valuable than any life of Jefferson, because it enables the reader to form his own opinion of the author of the Declaration of Independence.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks for an explanation of the term "government by injunction." It is a phrase used to describe a process of the court which has been more and more frequently abused of late, whereby the court, at the instance of a corporation, enjoins the striking employes from doing some act described in the order. The object of the writ is to suspend the right of trial by jury and give the judge an opportunity to punish for contempt of court in case the order is violated. The democratic platforms of 1896 and 1900 condemned government by injunction. If the court prohibits the doing of an act already unlawful the order is unnecessary because those who violate the criminal law can be prosecuted in the ordinary way. If the court prohibits the doing of an act which is not prohibited by law, then it is guilty of creating law, which is not the province of the court.